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Appl. No. 10/062,949
Amdt. dated October 4, 2006
Reply to Office Action of July 7, 2006

PATENT**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed July 7, 2006. Claims 1-12 were pending in the present application. This Amendment amends claims 1, 2, and 10-12, without adding or canceling any claims, leaving pending in the application claims 1-12. Reconsideration of the rejected claims is respectfully requested.

I. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-3, 5, 7, and 9-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over *Coulthard* (US Pub. 2002/0059364) in view of *Nishikado* (US 6,572,025). Applicants respectfully submit that these references do not teach or suggest each element of these claims.

For example, Applicants' claim 1 as amended recites an authenticity output method of outputting a verification result of authenticity based on digital data, comprising:

receiving discriminating information to be outputted with a verification result of authenticity based on the digital data, wherein the discriminating information is discriminable only by a specific user who inputted the discriminating information;
registering the discriminating information into a personal table for verification, the personal table for verification associating the registration information inputted by each of a plurality of users with that respective user;
verifying the authenticity based on the digital data; and
when the verification result of the authenticity based on the digital data is outputted to one of said users, reading out the discriminating information registered in said personal table for verification associated with that user and outputting said discriminating information with said verification result on a display screen to that user

(*emphasis added*). Such limitations are neither taught nor disclosed by these references.

Coulthard teaches a content processing system utilizing verification information for certified content (paragraph [0003]). A certification verification process can display information describing content certification, such as the entities that have approved the content, when such approval occurred, the version number, etc. (paragraph [0045]). The interface also can play voice data provided by the person who *certified* the content (not the user requesting the certification) (paragraph [0045]). For example, an entity such as a business can list employees that must approve submitted content before that content is certified (paragraph [0047]). Information regarding *certification by the entity* can be stored in a database (paragraph [0049]).

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Coulthard does not, however, teach or suggest receiving discriminating information from users of the system who submit requests and then receive a display of the discriminating information and verification result as recited in Applicants' claim 1. *Coulthard* teaches storing information for an employee or person certifying content, and displaying this information to the user along with the certified content. This information is not discriminable only to the user, however, as the information typically will be for a person whom the user has never met, such that the user has no way of knowing if the person certifying the content is legitimate or not. As one of the objects of the claimed invention is to prevent spoofing, or faking of certifications, displaying information that is submitted by, and only discriminable by the user (such as a code word, image, etc.) substantially prevents someone from faking a certification, as the person does not know and cannot discriminate the information provided by the user. While a person could fake the name of an employee or company that is public knowledge (or unable to be readily confirmed by the user), that person cannot easily obtain the information submitted by the user that is only discriminable to the user. As such, *Coulthard* does not teach, suggest, or provide the safety and security of the invention of Applicants' claim 1.

Further, the invention of Applicants' claim 1 as amended prevents forgery of all displayed contents while outputting a verification result of authenticity based on digital data, by structuring and displaying different information for each viewer as stored in the personal table for that user. *Coulthard* would display the same certification information for any user viewing a given content.

Nishikado does not make up for the deficiencies in *Coulthard* with respect to claim 1. *Nishikado* teaches a system for hiding information, such as maybe contained in a two-dimensional bar code, in images contained in an information code product, such as a person ID card, in order to improve the security of such code products (cards) (col. 2, lines 11-40; col. 13, line 34-col. 14, line 30). The information contained in the bar code, for example, can include information such as "the card owner's name, address, date of birth, company ID number, and the like, and the image data of the face picture" (col. 18, lines 45-49). This information is not information that is provided by a user and only discriminable by the user as recited in Applicant's claim 1, as information such as the user's name and address can be known and/or determined by many persons and/or entities. Further, this information is printed into an image of an

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identification card, and *Nishikado* does not teach or suggest receiving discriminating information from users of the system who submit requests and then receive a display of the discriminating information and verification result as recited in Applicants' claim 1. The cards of *Nishikado* do not output a verification result in response to a request from a user, and do not display information only discriminable by the user.

Further, the invention of Applicants' claim 1 as amended prevents forgery of all displayed contents in response to a request, as discussed above, structuring and displaying different information for each viewer as stored in the personal table for that user. *Nishikado* only displays fixed information on an ID card, which would be the same for any viewer or user of the card. As such, *Nishikado* cannot make up for the deficiencies of *Coulthard* with respect to Applicants' claim 1 or the claims that depend therefrom. The other claims also recite limitations that similarly are neither taught nor suggested by *Coulthard* and *Nishikado*, alone or in combination, such that these claims also cannot be rendered obvious.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over *Coulthard* and *Nishikado* in view of *Freishtat* (US 6,317,783). Claim 4 depends from claims 1 or 2, which are not rendered obvious by *Coulthard* and *Nishikado* as discussed above. *Freishtat* does not make up for the deficiencies in these references with respect to claims 1 and 2. *Freishtat* teaches a system for aggregating personal information from multiple sources and delivering this information to a user in a unified manner (col. 3, lines 5-33; col. 4, lines 22-51), and is cited as teaching well-known encryption for encrypting a social security number (OA p. 12). Such teaching would not make up for the deficiencies in *Coulthard* and *Nishikado* with respect to claims 1 and 2. A social security number is not information that is discriminable only to the user even though the information may not be public information, as the information is known to others to be associated with the user. Further, *Freishtat* does not teach or suggest receiving discriminating information from users of the system who submit requests and then receive a display of the discriminating information and verification result as recited in Applicants' claims 1 and 2. As such, *Freishtat* cannot make up for the deficiencies in *Coulthard* and *Nishikado* with

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respect to claims 1 and 2, or dependent claim 4. The combination of these references therefore cannot render these claims obvious.

Claims 6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over *Coulthard* and *Nishikado* in view of *Tanaka* (US 6,572,025). Claims 6 and 8 depend from claims 1 or 2, which are not rendered obvious by *Coulthard* and *Nishikado* as discussed above. *Tanaka* does not make up for the deficiencies in these references with respect to claims 1 and 2. *Tanaka* teaches a system for determining and recording motion images (col. 2, line 66-col. 4, line 14), and is cited as teaching outputting information to a specific position designated by the user (OA p. 12). Such teaching would not make up for the deficiencies in *Coulthard* and *Nishikado* with respect to claims 1 and 2. *Tanaka* does not teach or suggest receiving discriminating information (discriminable only to the user) from users of the system who submit requests and then receive a display of the discriminating information and verification result as recited in Applicants' claims 1 and 2. As such, *Tanaka* cannot make up for the deficiencies in *Coulthard* and *Nishikado* with respect to claims 1 and 2, or dependent claims 6 and 8. The combination of these references therefore cannot render these claims obvious.

Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejections with respect to claims 1-12 be withdrawn.

II. Amendment to the Claims

Unless otherwise specified, amendments to the claims are made for purposes of clarity, and are not intended to alter the scope of the claims or limit any equivalents thereof. The amendments are supported by the specification and do not add new matter.

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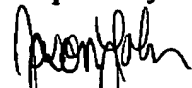
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



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